UNITED NATIONS

CEDAW

Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women

Distr.
GENERAL

CEDAW/C/5/Add.35
11 April 1986

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS SUBMITTED BY STATES PARTIES UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE CONVENTION

Initial reports of States Parties

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

V.86-55566

Introduction

1. As a State Party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Republic of Korea submits, in accordance with article 18 of the Convention, its initial report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women for the Committee's consideration.

2. In traditional Korean society, until the creation of the Republic of Korea in 1948, discrimination in favour of the male based on feudal Confucianism dominated all aspects of women's lives. As a result, women had to live "from cradle to grave" subordinated to men.

3. The Constitution of the Republic of Korea, promulgated on 17 July 1948, recognized equality between men and women as one of the supreme organizing principles of the state, opening the door for the equal participation of women with men in many fields of the nation's life. Women thus were emancipated from ages of discrimination, leaving behind them a dark, oppressive and closed world.

4. As results of measures taken thereafter by the Government of the Republic of Korea in accordance with the constitutional principle, the status of women in Korea has undergone enormous changes, and accordingly discrimination against women in political, economic, social, cultural, and other fields has largely been eliminated.

5. The adoption of the Convention of Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women by the United Nations General Assembly in December 1979, with its worldwide significance to the further improvement and enhancement of the status of women, has greatly changed public attitudes in Korea towards the ideal of sexual equality and the concept of women's progress.

6. The Government of the Republic of Korea has taken positive efforts to enhance women's status on both the governmental and private level. Among the outstanding results are the following : the Labour Standards Act was partially revised in 1982 ; the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was signed in 1983 and ratified in 1984 ; and the Korean Women's Development Institute (KWDI) was founded in 1983 to deal exclusively with women's issues on a national level. Furthermore, after the signing of the Convention the Korean Government established the Committee of Policies for Women under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister as a further step to implement faithfully the provisions of the Convention.

7. Therefore, most of the measures to be taken by State Parties in pursuance of the Convention have been adopted and implemented in Korea. However, it has been argued that the Korean Family Law still has some provisions which are contradictory to the constitutional principle and thus discriminatory against women.
(see para. 72-76 for details)

8. In spite of the above-mentioned advances, we can not deny that it is difficult and thus time-consuming to eliminate completely the entrenched traditions of discrimination against women and also to realize fully the equal participation of women in every field.
The ratification of the Convention by the Republic of Korea, therefore, laid a firm basis to eliminate the remaining barriers of discrimination against women, including such actions as the revision of the Family Law.

9. In preparing the initial report, due attention has been paid to the general guidelines regarding the form and contents of reports by State Parties.
(CEDAW/C/7)

PART I - GENERAL

Women's Status under the Constitution

10. As mentioned in the introduction, since its enactment the Constitution of the Republic of Korea has recognized the equality of men and women as a supreme principle of the state. The principle is concretely manifested in various articles of the Constitution.

11. The current Constitution, amended in 1980, emphasizes equal treatment and equal opportunities for all persons, regardless of sex, by stating in its preamble "--- to destroy all social vices and injustices, to afford equal opportunities to every person, and to provide for the fullest development of the capabilities of each individual in all fields, including political, economic, civic and cultural life by further strengthening the basic free and democratic order ---."

12. The Constitution states in article 9 that "all citizens shall be assured of human worth and dignity and have the right to pursue happiness." It clearly bans discrimination on account of sex, by providing in article 10 that "all citizens shall be equal before the law, and there shall be no discrimination in political, econimic or cultural life on account of sex, religion on social status." Furthermore, it provides that "marriage and family life shall

be established and maintained on the basis of the dignity of the individual and the equality of the sexes" (para 1, art.34).

13. The above-mentioned articles put beyond any doubt that the Constitution, the supreme law of the country, is firmly based on the principle of equality between men and women. The purpose of these articles is strongly to advance the cause of sexual equality in all areas.

National Machinery for Women's Affairs

14. Women's affairs are usually administered by the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and the Ministry of Labour. The office in charge of women's administration is the Women's Welfare Division of the Family Welfare Bureau, located in the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. It sets up and arranges general plans for women's welfare and administers women's guidance and enlightenment. In the Ministry of Labour, the Women and Youth Workers Division of the Labour Standards Bureau works for the improvement of labour conditions and provides protective guidelines for women laborers. A Women Affairs Guidance Officer, who is assistant to the Vice-Minister of Labour, also deals with special protection and guidance for women laborers. There are other divisions in this regard under the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Education, the Rural Development Administration and the Patriots and Veterans Affairs Agency. Each works on its particular issues regarding women's affairs.

15. The Korean Government founded the National Committee on Women's Policies, under the Office of the Prime Minister, in December 1983. The Committee's goal is to handle women's affairs more systematically and comprehensively by streamlining the handling of such affairs. Its major task is to set up and arrange general policies concerned with women. The Committee consists of 20 members, with the Prime Minister as Chairperson, the Minister of the Economic Planning Board and the Minister of Health and Social Affairs as Vice-Chairpersons. It includes other ministers concerned and ten privately-commissioned experts. It also has a "Working Committee" which is comprised of the Vice-Minister of Health and Social Affairs as Chairperson and some gevernmental director-generals as staff. This is designed to serve as outlet to deal with women's affairs according to each government sector, and thus to reflect them in policy-making.

16. The Korean Women's Development Institute (KWDI) was founded in April 1983 to deal exclusively with women's affairs with close ties with the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs. Its goal is to enhance the social participation of women and promote their welfare programs. The major task of its 164 staff members is to integrate women into the development process. Its major activities are to survey and do research on women, provide education for the cultivation of women's potential, foster and support women's activities, manage a resource center and publish reading materials, participate in international cooperation, and conduct an information exchange program.

17. In 1963, the Family Court of Korea was established to provide easier access for women and children to the complicated court procedures. Its main emphasis has been on mediation and conciliation between the parties, with the goals of respecting both men and women and of helping re-affirm wholesome family life.

The Long-Range Plan for Women's Development

18. The Korean Government has adopted the Long-Range Plan for Women's Development, which had been drafted by the KWDI and later considered by the National Committee on Women's Policies. The plan will be integrated into the national development program.

19. The bases of the plan are the principles of cooperation, harmony, humanization and comprehensiveness. The plan focuses on three sectors: utilizing the abilities of the female workforce, developing women's potential, and planning for the health of households. Likewise, the plan offers concrete measures according to each of its three periods; preparatory period (1975-1986), establishment period (1987-1991), and integrative period (1992-2000).

20. The measures for the female workforce suggest ways to correct or strengthen the institutions in question, to establish firmly the volunteer bank program for the development of female resources (on which the KWDI is now working), to specialize the activities of consumers' groups, and to activate women's organizations. Meanwhile, the development measures for women's potential are designed to provide equal

educational opportunities, to improve textbook contents to ensure sensible images of the roles of men and women, and to provide counselling on school advancement. The planning sector for the health of households puts forward concrete steps for the support of employed mothers, legal support systems for more secure family life, and means to establish welfare systems. It also offered some measures to seek a reasonable division of responsibilities between men and women, in order to create a harmonious home milieu and to encourage the self-development of each family member.

The Guidelines for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

21. The Korean Government adopted the Guidelines for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, drafted by the KWDI and considered by the National Committee on Women's Policies, as of March 1985. The guidelines contain concrete countermeasures against any possible barriers to women, such as unfair laws and systems, and against any lack of public cooperation in the process of implementing the above-mentioned long-range plan.

22. The guidelines, along with their 81 proposals, deal with the four major sectors of employment, education, health and the family life. Additional areas are now being considere A wide use of such guidelines by the government, private enterprises, and the general public will help to eliminate discriminatory practices against women as well as to improve unequal social conditions, which hinder the contributions of women to national development.

23. The Government set up a "Special Office for Women" in the Economic Planning Board in order to integrate the long-range plan and the guidelines into the Sixth Five-year Economic and Social Development Plan, which starts in 1987. Women's development was also emphasized in the "Long-Range National Development Plan Toward the year 2000" drafted by the Korea Development Institute. Thus, prospects for the development of women are quite promising, because women's affairs are increasingly being incorporated into national development programs and also treated on a policy level.

Effect of the Convention on Domestic Law

24. As regards the effect on domestic law of international conventions and other legal instruments which are binding upon the Republic of Korea under international law, the Constitution provides in article 5 that "treaties duly concluded and promulgated in accordance with the Constitution and the generally recognized rules of international law shall have the same effect as the domestic laws of the Republic of Korea."

25. Article 5 of the Constitution means that treaties concluded by the Republic of Korea and generally recognized international laws have the same effect as domestic laws, without specific legislative measures to incorporate them into Korean domestic law.

26. Since the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women was ratified by the Republic of Korea, it therefore became part of Korean domestic law and can be invoked before, and directly enforced by the courts, other tribunals or administrative authorities of the Republic of Korea.

PART II - INFORMATION IN RELATION TO ARTICLES 2 TO 16

Article 2

27. As explained in Part I of this report, the Korean Constitution recognizes equality between men and women as a supreme principle of the state; further more, the Constitution has several articles to manifest and implement this principle concretely. The constitutional principle is applied in all spheres of Korean legislation.

Women's Position in the Labour Laws

28. The Labour Standards Act upholds the constitutional principle of equality by stating in article 5 that employers shall not discriminate against employees on account of sex. The Labour Union Act also provides in article 11 that a member of a labour union shall not be subjected to discriminative treatment under any circumstances due to sex.

29. In consideration of the physiological differences between men and women, the Constitution provides that special protection shall be accorded to working women and children (para.(4), art. 30)
The Labour Standards Act includes some provisions which are designed to protect women from hard labour in accordance with the constitutional provisions. Chapter 5 of the Labour Standards Act is exclusively devoted to provisions concerning special protection of women and children. The provisions read as follows:

Article 51-No female or minor under 18 years of age shall be authorized to engage in any work detrimental to morality or harmful to health. The prohibited kinds of work shall be provided by the Presidential Decree.

Article 56-No female or minor under 18 years shall be authorized to work between the hours of 22:00 and 06:00 or on holidays, unless otherwise approved by the Minister of Labour.

Article 57-An employer shall be forbidden to place any female 18 years or older on overtime work for a period exceeding two hours a day, six hours a week, and 150 hours a year, even if provided for in a collective bargaining agreement.

Article 58-An employer shall not place a female or minor under 18 years on any work inside a mine.

Article 59-An employer shall allow one day menstruation leave with pay per month upon the request of a female employee.

Article 60-(1) An employer shall allow a pregnant female employee 60 days maternity leave with pay before and after childbirth; provided, however, that maternity leave with pay shall be granted for use for not less than 30 days after childbirth. (2) Pregnant female employees shall be transferred to other light and easy work upon their request and shall not be assigned to overtime work.

Article 61-A female employee who has an infant under 1 year shall be allowed nursing periods twice a day of at least 30 minutes each.

Article 62-An employer shall bear the treavel expenses necessary when a female or minor under 18 years returns home within 14 days from the date of their dismissal; however, when the reason for dismissal is attributable to the employee and the employer has obtained the confirmation thereof from the Labour Committee, this provision shall not apply.

Biside these, there are other articles which stipulate guidance and relief programmes for women and children who deserve special attention. Such articles include the debauchery prevention law, life protection law, and so on.

Women's Status in the Cirminal Code

30. The only provision of criminal code, which touches upon the question of equality between the sexes, is the law concerning adultery. The current Criminal Code defines adultery as a criminal offense, which merits legal actions against both parties. Therefore, the Criminal Code contains no discriminatory provisions against women.

Article 3

31. The Constitution recognizes as supreme principles of state the guarantee of fundamental human rights, based

on a respect for human dignity; the worth of the individual; and the equality of individuals before the law. These constitutional principles are strictly and consistently applied in the political, economic, social, cultural and other fields of public life.

32. Therefore, women are guaranteed enjoyment of human rights and basic freedoms on the basis of full equality with men.

Article 4

33. A sharp rise in demands for female labour in the process of modern industrialization made it necessary to assure medical and social protection for maternity by law. The related laws are the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Act, the Industrial Health Act, the Labour Standards Act, and the Child Protection Act. Article 44 of the Labour Standards Act, revised in 1982,defines six types of jobs forbidden to women.

The following are measures to enhance the health of both mother and child

- offering registration and management services for expect mothers and their foetus
- offering delivery aid and supplying expectant mothers wi proper nutrition
- establishing and operating MCH centers
- training MCH workers, and actively engaging in related education and publicity

- launching a maternal physical protection program for working mothers on a continuous basis.

34. Considering that the major difficulty of married women with their employment is child care, the Korean government since 1980 has established 2,195 child care centers and has assisted employed women to make use of these centers. Based on the Maternal and Child Health Act, the government is also improving services for pregnant mothers, post-natal care, and the systems of delivery and health care for infants and children. The government has constructed 71 MCH Centers to improve the health of mothers and children by increasing institutional delivery.

Article 5

35. The Korean Constitution clearly declares the principle of equal opportunity and sexual equality in the political, economic, social and cultural sectors. The spirit of sexual equality served as the basis of such laws as the Labour Standards Act, the Labour Union Act, and the Education Act. All of them have been enacted under the jurisdiction of the democratic constitution, which is committed to the cause of dignity for individuals and the equality of men and women.

The Labour Standards Act (art. 5) and the Labour Union Act (art. 11) prohibit any discriminatory treatment against labourers or union members on the grounds of sexual difference.

36. As regards family education, the importance of family and maternity is emphasized in primary and middle school education. It is also taught that the responsibility for housekeeping and upbringing of children should be shared between the sexes. Some women's organizations provide courses on parental care and on the role of the parents, which both men and women are encouraged to attend.

Article 6

37. The exploitation or prostitution of women is prohibited by law in Korea. In order to prevent prostitution, the Government enacted the Prostitution Prevention Act in 1961, the major points of which are as follows:

- Prohibition of prostitution (art. 4)
- Prohibition of pimping (art. 6)
- Establishment of a centre for the protection of prostitutes (art. 7)
- Installation of facilities for vocational training of prostitutes, leading to their rehabilitation and self-reliance (art. 8)

Under the Penal Code, arranging for prostitution is a punishable offence.

38. In Korea, there are 267 counsellors in 19 women's counselling centers throughout the nation to aid prostitutes, battered women, and women suffering from other such problems.

Article 7

39. Since the creation of the Republic of Korea in 1948, women have enjoyed the same political rights as men. The Constitution provides that all citizens 20 years or older shall have the right to vote in all elections in accordance with the provisions of law.
The Constitution also makes it clear that Korean women are eligible for election to all publicly elected bodies, by stating that all citizens shall have the right to hold public office in accordance with the provisions of law.

40. Korea has seen a steady rise of women's participation in national policy-making sectors, but not yet to a statisfactory extent.
The participation rate in such positions as government officials, teachers, and political party members is hovering above 20%.

41. As for women officials, between 1978 and the end of 1983 there was an increase of 71.3% in the number of women who held government positions. The figure represents 21.4% of the total number of officials. This is a remarkable increase over the five-year period.

42. Education is the most women-intensive area. There were around 100,000 women teachers as of 1983, representing 34% of the total. The increasing trend of women teachers has continued.

43. In the political parties, the male to female ratio of membership was 8:2 in the 1970s. The rate is now 6:4. The increase of women membership is attributable to the enhancement of consciousness among women themselves.

This was possible due to the higher educationsl networks, smaller family size, and less housework for women.

44. The number of female congresspersons in the 12th National Assembly, which started in 1985, is 8 out of 276. 24 women have passed the national judicial examination since 1951, and 3 are currently practicing lawyers, 11 are judges, and 2 are prosecutors.

45. In the press, 19, 256 women, who represent 10% of all workers engaged in the mass communication sectors,are working as reporters, producers, scriptwriters, and administrative clerks.

46. Article 20 of the Constitution guarantees freedom of association, which, like all other constitutional provisions, applies equally to men and women. Korean women participate to a very large extent in the activities of non-governmental organizations.

47. There are about 6 million members in 62 organizations which are registered with the government. The membership will increase if we calculate about 40 organizations which are not yet registered with the government. The Korean National Council of Women (KNCW), which incorporates 25 organizations currently, is also active on the international circuit with its membership in the International Council of Women (ICW) since 1960 and in the Pan Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association (PPSEAWA) since 1970.

48. The major activities of women's organizations are to build friendship and enhance women's potential, to provide service, to give consciousness education, health care

service, and legal counselling, to engage in religious activities to carry out consumer protection movements, and to promote international friendship and campaign for a rational economic life. The organizations tend to be increasingly specialized in nature.

Article 8

49. Korean women have the opportunity, on equal terms with men, to represent the Government at the international level. Korean women's activities on the international scence have also gained momentum, with Korea hosting many international conferences and dispatching its delegations to various international meetings.

Article 10

50. Boys and girls, men and women enjoy equal rights to and equal opportunities for education, training and vocational guidance.

51. The Constitution provides that all citizens shall have the right to receive an equal education corresponding to their abilities. (para (1), art 29)
The Constitution furthermore states that all citizens who have children to support shall be responsible at least for their elementary education, and for the education as provided by law (para(2),art 29.)

52. In view of the increasing complexity of modern life and the need to cultivate a civic spirit, it wil be necessary to develop various educational systems, in addition to formal education, so that citizens may continue to be educated throught their lives. The Constitution contains a clause calling for the promotion of adult education, vocational training, youth education, etc. (para. (5), art. 29), in order to realize the full potential of individual citizens and thus further national development.

53. In the process of industrialization, Korea saw a boost in both the schooling rate and the percentage of women students in higher education. These phenomena resulted from an increased student population, which, in turn, contributed to a steady rise of women's learning opportunities. More than 99% of boys and girls attended primary school after it became compulsory in 1948. As of 1980, the enrollment in middle schools was 92.6% for girls and 96.4% for boys. The percentages for high school were 62.2% for girls and 74.4.% for boys. At the college level, the enrollment percentages were 6.7% for women and 19.5% for men in 1983.

54. Co-education is widely practiced in school. All primary schools are co-educational, 50% of all middle schools are co-educational, and 30% of the total number of high schools include both boys and girls.

55. A Non-Formal Education Act was enacted in 1983, in recognition of the changing pace of the social structure and the limits of formal education. The Act introduced an active social education program for women on the basis of lifetime education.

There are various kinds of para-schools in Korea, including civic schools, higher technological schools, correspondence high schools and colleges, open universities, secondary schools and working student's classes attached to industries. The girls' enrollment rate hovers above 50% in these types of schools with some exceptions: the higher technological schools show a 15.5% of the girls' enrollment rate, the correspondence college showed a 34.7% level in 1983, up from 26.2% in 1974, and open universities reported 12.2% women students in 1980.

56. There are educational facilities attached to women's organizations, government-affiliated welfare facilities, press-affiliated cultural centers, and university-attached educational facilities, in addition to community centers for social development, which are attached to primary, middle and high schools, and attached libraries. Social education for women is largely centered on adult general eudation.

Article 11

57. Equality between men and women in the field of employment is also guaranteed by law. The Constitution provides that all citizens shall have the right to work (para. (1), art. 30), and that all citizens shall have the duty to work. (para (2), art. 30). The Constitution also guarantees the right to choose work by providing that all citizens shall enjoy freedom of occupation. (art. 14)

58. As regards wages for workers, it is stipulated in the Constitution that the standards of working conditions shall be determined by law in such a manner as to assure the human dignity of workers, and that workers shall be guaranteed optimum wages. The Constitution also reflects the state's strong determination to carry on vigorous social welfare policies, including medical insurance, on the basis of sustained economic growth, in order that all the people can fairly share the benefits of growth. These clauses are aimed at furthering national economic progress, while boosting the morale of workers and protecting their right to a decent life.

59. Women's participation in the economic sector increased as a result of Korea's rapid industrialization, starting in the late 1960s. It was particularly influenced by the direction of economic development, which concentrated investment in the manufactured export sector. There were 5,667,000 economically active women out of the total 14,366,000 women aged over 14 as of 1984, making a women's economic participation rate of 39.5%. Economically non-active women number 8,698,000, among whom 66.8% are housewives.

60. Women employees by industrial sector consisted of 30.1% of workers in primary industry, 23.0% in secondary industry, and 46.9% in tertiary industry as of 1984. The composition ratio of the nation's industrial structure, which was 49.5:21.4:29.1 in 1976, has changed with the primary industrial sector -- agriculture, forestry, and fishery -- on the wane. Meanwhile, there was a remarkable increase in the composition rate of the secondary

and tertiary industrial sectors, as the mining, manufacturing and service sectors gained.

61. One of the outstanding features of women's employment patterns over the past 10 years has been the increase of married women's employment. In the 1970s, most employed women were between 14 and 24 and unmarried. With the increase of students from this age group in subsequent years, they constituted only 23.9% of workers in 1984. On the other hand, the number of married women in employment kept rising; in 1984, 64.4% of all employed women were married. This phenomenon may be explained by the lower birth rate, freedom from domestic chores and child rearing made possible through improved living standards, and a greater desire for self-realization among educated women.

62. The government urges employers to provide set labour hours as stipulated in the Labour Standards Act. Efforts are also being made to improve the working environment and welfare facilities. In order to achieve full employment of the female workforce, the government has eased the Regulation on the Outlawed Job Types for Women; it has worked for structural improvements and the removal of inequality between men and women and encouraged the operation of day care centers for working mothers.

63. Korean women are receiving more chances for vocational training. The government enacted the Basic Act for Vocational Training to motivate and encourage women to take such courses. There are about 111 training schools -- public and government institutes, local training centers, and in-company

training centers -- which are training 6,951 students in about 40 categories, including electronics and industrial products. The government also plans to set up a women's vocational training center. Thus, the prospect is bright for the educational development of female workers.

Article 12

64. Men and women in Korea have equal opportunities for and equal access to health care services, including those related to family planning. In this regards, the Constitution provides that the health of all citizens shall be protected by the State. (para (2), art. 34)

65. The improvement in the health level for laborers, which is a driving force for labour productivity increases, has been closely interwoven with social economic development. Korean economic growth has improved the health level of women as well as of the general public.

66. See paragraph 29, 33 and 34 for related information.

Article 13

67. As already stated, the Korean Consitution is based on the equality between men and women, and the equality of individuals before the law. Therefore, Korean women enjoy, on an equal footing with men, the right to family benefits, the right to bank loans, mortgages, and other forms of financial credit. Korean women also enjoy the right to

participate in all aspects of cultural life, including sports.

Article 14

68. The wave of industrial modernization since the 1960s has brought about rapid changes in rural life and the rural economy. Many young people and unmarried women have migrated to cities seeking jobs there, leaving only the elderly, married women, and children behind in rural communities. Thus married women have had to assume leading roles in farming communities.
Therefore rural women have not only performed domestic work and raised children but also farmed and managed the rural economy.

69. Rural women have also taken an active part in community affairs. The mechanization of farming helped produce a rapid increase in the rate of married women's participation in rural economic activities and boosted their assistance in development through the Saemaul Undong.

70. The Korean Government adopts and implements various programmes designed to reduce the excessive workload of rural women and to support their activities and health. For example, the Primary Health Center Act was enacted to ensure that nationwide farming and fishing villages receive public medical facilities, along with health clinics which are usually staffed by nurse practitioners.

Article 15

71. Under Korean law, women and men have the same legal capacity with respect to the administration of property. In this connection, the Constitution stipulated that the right of property of all citizens shall be guaranteed. (para. (1), art. 22)

Article 16

72. In relation to marriage and family relations, the Constitution provides that marriage and family life shall be entered into and sustained on the basis of individual dignity and equality of the sexes.

73. The Family Law, effective since 1976 and partially revised in 1977, is also based on a respect for human dignity and the equality between men and women, in accordance with constitutional provisions.
Therefore, women and men largely have the same rights and duties in relation to the formation and dissolution of marriage.

74. However, the patriachal family system, handed down from the old feudalistic society, remains partially in effect in Korea. As a result, the current Family Law still contains some tradition-bound provisions of the family system in relation to:

- The family headship system;
- Prohibition of marriage between the parties whose surname and place of family origin are same;

- Definition of relatives;
- Exercise of parental authority;
- Relationships between the legitimate mother and a child born out of wedlock and between the stepmother and the stepchild;
- Sharing of property between divorced couple.

75. Since the family laws of any country are the codification of the cultural and social traditions and age-old customs of its society, revising the laws requires a general consensus of the people and thus takes time.

76. Although the case of Korea cannot be an exception, the Korean Government places the question of revising the Family Law under constant review in the spirit of the Convention. Recently, the Civil Code Revision Committee and a Study Group on the Family Law were established under the Ministry of Justice to study the revision of the Family Law.

. . . . .